

White House To Monitor U.S. Spying

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President Ford's plan to prevent future abuses by the U.S. intelligence community will be unveiled this week, according to White House sources.

Although some decisions have not yet been made, the basic ingredients of the package are:

— An independent White House board to monitor intelligence agencies' adherence to new presidential directives containing "Thou Shalt Not's." Some directives will be stated publicly in revised agency charters, while others will be classified because they relate to secret operations.

Inspector general offices in each agency will be strengthened and directed to report improprieties to their chiefs and to the White House board. The board will have investigatory power and will be required to report abuses to the President and findings of alleged criminal activities to the Attorney General.

The new board would not oversee intelligence collection or analysis as does the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board under present White House organization.

— Executive oversight of FBI domestic intelligence, counterintelligence and foreign intelligence collection operations will remain responsibility of the Attorney General, but with presidential directives as basis for new guidelines.

— The director of central intelligence will become the chief White House assistant on intelligence and have budgetary control over all agencies gathering foreign intelligence including those of the military services, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency and the National Reconnaissance Organization which operates spy satellites.

At present, the CIA director

is supervisor of the foreign intelligence community in name only. He chairs most intelligence interagency committees, but has no real power to change budgets or operations of Pentagon-based agencies, for example.

The Defense Department, according to informed sources, opposes giving the CIA director this added power, arguing he would no longer be "neutral."

— Intelligence analysis for the President and his top advisers will be put together in a new White House unit that would serve as a "mainline channel free of institutional policy bias," according to one INTELLIGENCE, A7, Col. 1

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presidential aide. This group would serve as the DCI's White House staff, according to one source, and seek to replace the present "indistinguishable boards and panels that tend to fuzz their product to prevent clear accountability."

— The DIA would be continued since the President wants to preserve competition in intelligence production. The House intelligence committee recommended it be abolished and the Senate committee reportedly also favors its abolition.

— Covert action by the CIA and clandestine intelligence collection by all agencies

would continue but under sharply restricted presidential guidelines.

— A secrecy law will be proposed that would apply only to active and retired CIA and other government employees with access to classified intelligence information. It would be a crime for a covered individual to disclose intelligence sources and methods, and the government could go to court to enjoin such an individual from making a disclosure.

The President will not, according to a White House aide, seek to include congressional aides or members of Congress under this new secrecy law.

— The President will not send to Congress any recommendations for future congressional oversight of the intelligence community. As a former congressman, Mr. Ford, according to one aide, does not believe a President "should tell them how to run their branch and Congress should not try to run the executive."

White House aides are quick to point out that the President sees his reorganization proposals as a way to stake out goals for the foreign intelligence community and try to re-establish public trust in secret agencies.

"There has been strong disagreement on everything," one Ford aide said, "including even this approach to try and reorganize the intelligence community rather than just limiting the President's effort to a damage assessment operation."

Attorney General Edward H. Levi, for example, visited President Ford Friday afternoon to make a special plea on one part of the latest draft that affects the FBI. Other last-minute requests for changes and suggestions are expected in the next few days.

The primary aims of the President's program will be accomplished through executive orders and National Security Council intelligence directives. Thus, the Ford program will be going into effect while congressional committees are still dealing with recommendations developed from the past year's investigations.

The Ford intelligence

package is the product of almost five months' study by an intelligence coordinating group headed by White House counselor John O. Marsh Jr. Also in the group were Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger; former Defense Secretary James Schlesinger and his successor, Donald Rumsfeld; Attorney General Levi; presidential counsel Philip W. Buchen; former CIA Director William E. Colby and George Bush, his successor; Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, the President's national security affairs adviser; Office of Management and Budget Director James T. Lynn, and White House aide Michael Duval, who served as executive secretary.